

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 the following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-22. (Cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended) A security system for an electronic device having a memory, the security system comprising:

a means arranged to interact with the electronic device to acquire at least a portion of the memory of the electronic device; and

an access system arranged to control access to the acquired memory independently of an operating system of the electronic device; and

a filter driver configured to intercept read/write operations to the memory of the electronic device and interact with the acquired portion of the memory based on the intercepted read/write operations independent of the operating system.

24. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 23, wherein the means arranged to interact with the electronic device is arranged to interact directly with the operating system.

25. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 23, wherein the means arranged to interact with the electronic device is arranged to interact with a memory management unit of the device.

26. (Original) A system as claimed in any claim 25, wherein the memory management system is manipulated to remove references to the acquired memory.

27. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 25, wherein the access system is arranged to control access to at least selected registers of the memory management unit.

28. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 23, wherein the acquired memory is hidden from the operating system.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 23, wherein the electronic device comprises a selected one of a personal digital assistant (PDAs), a mobile telephone and a laptop.

31. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 23, wherein the access system is arranged to protect at least selected registry settings associated with the acquired memory such that they cannot be modified by other applications.

32. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 31, wherein the access system is arranged to maintain a copy of correct values for the selected registry settings, monitor the registry settings and reset registry settings where incorrect values are detected.

33. (Original) A system, as claimed in claim 23, wherein the memory acquired, is used to store the encryption/decryption key or keys of the encryption system.

34. (Currently Amended) A method of protecting at least a portion of a memory of an electronic device comprising the steps of:

interacting with the electronic device to acquire at least a portion of the memory of the electronic device; and

controlling access to the acquired memory independently of an operating system of the electronic device;

intercepting read/write operations to the memory of the electronic device by a filter driver; and

processing the intercepted read/write operations independent of the operating system.

35. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the step of interacting includes interacting directly with the operating system.

41. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 40, further comprising the steps of maintaining a copy of correct values for the selected registry settings, monitoring the registry settings and resetting registry settings where incorrect values are detected.

process the intercepted read/write operations memory independent of the operating system.